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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number 10/694,588

Filing Date October 27, 2003

First Named Inventor Dörrie et al.

Art Unit 3617

Examiner Name Not Yet Known

Attorney Docket Number INA-PT080

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)☐ Fee Transmittal Form☐ Fee Attached☐ Amendment/Reply☐ After Final☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)☐ Extension of Time Request☐ Express Abandonment Request☒ Information Disclosure Statement☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)☐ Response to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application☐ Response to Missing Parts
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐ Drawing(s)☐ Licensing-related Papers☐ Petition☐ Petition to Convert to a

Provisional Application

☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation

Change of Correspondence Address

☐ Terminal Disclaimer☐ Request for Refund☐ CD, Number of CD(s) _____

Remarks

☐ After Allowance communication
to Group☐ Appeal Communication to Board
of Appeals and Interferences☐ Appeal Communication to Group
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐ Proprietary Information☐ Status Letter☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please
Identify below):Form PTO-1449; German Search Report; and
11 references cited thereon.**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**Firm or Individual name Randolph J. Huis
Volpe and Koenig, P.C.

Reg. No. 34,626

Signature

Date 3/4/2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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Date

3/4/2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Dörrie et al.

Application No.: 10/694,588

Confirmation No.: 3750

Filed: October 27, 2003

For: COUPLING ARRANGEMENT

Group: 3617

Examiner: Not Yet Known

Our File: INA-PT080

Date: March 4, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to Applicants' Duty of Disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention the material cited on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

Each of the enclosed documents was cited in a search report from the German Patent Office, copy enclosed. Of the non-English language references cited, German Patent DE 31 38 466 C2, in particular Figure 1, element 24, was cited as Category Y with respect to claim 6. DE 9 23 760 C, in particular Figure 1, elements d1 and d2, was cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1-5. DE 11 28 229 B, in particular elements 3 and 7, was cited as relevant with respect to claim 9. DE 198 07 108 A1, in particular Figures 12 and 13, elements 12, 13, and 20, was cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1, 7, and 8. DE 196 26 959 A1, in particular Figure 1 and elements



Applicant: Dörrie et al.
Application No.: 10/694,588

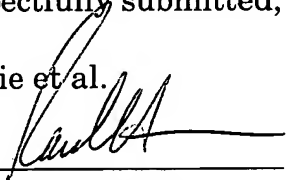
20,21, and 19, was cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1 and 6. DE 195 35 889 A1, in particular Figure 1, elements 15, 16, 18, and 19, was cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1-6. DE 195 11 188 A1, in particular Figure 1, elements 14 and 15, was cited as Category Y with respect to claim 6. DE 42 38 147, in particular Figure 1, elements 9 and 10, was cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1-5. DE 32 41 247, in particular Figure 1, elements 22, 21, and 19, was cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1 and 6. EP 10 67 303 A2, in particular Figure 1, elements 22 and 24, was cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1-5. EP 04 47 026 A1, in particular Figure 6, element 22, was cited as Category Y with respect to claims 1 and 6.

To the best knowledge of the undersigned, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a First Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee is required. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider these documents and return an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form indicating his consideration of the cited materials.

Respectfully submitted,

Dörrie et al.

By


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DPD/RJH/lhc
Enclosures



FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)										ATTY. DOCKET NO. INA-PT080			SERIAL NO. 10/694,588		
										APPLICANT Dörrie et al.					
										FILING DATE October 27, 2003			GROUP 3617		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS															
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS															
		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION		
													YES	NO	
✓	AA	3	1	3	8	4	6	6	04/1983	Germany					
✓	AB		9	2	3	7	6	0	02/1955	Germany					
✓	AC	1	1	2	8	2	2	9	05/1964	Germany					
✓	AD	19	8	0	7	1	0	8	08/1998	Germany					
✓	AE	19	6	2	6	9	5	9	01/1998	Germany					
✓	AF	19	5	3	5	8	8	9	04/1997	Germany					
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)															
EXAMINER										DATE CONSIDERED					

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.